



La Lettre Electronique de TRRAACE TRRAACE Electronic Newsletter

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TRRAACE :

TOUTES LES RESSOURCES POUR LES RADIOS AFRICAINES ASSOCIATIVES COMMUNAUTAIRES ET EDUCATIVES

TRACKING RESOURCES FOR RADIOS IN AFRICA AT THE BENEFIT OF THE ASSOCIATIVE COMMUNITY AND EDUCATIVE RADIO STATIONS

TODOS OS RECURSOS PARA AS RADIOS ASSOCIATIVAS EN AFRICA ASSIM CEMO COMUNITARIAS E EDUCATIVAS

[HTTP://WWW.MEDIAFRICA.NET](http://www.mediafrica.net)

Table des matières / Table of content

Resources / Ressources	2
RDC: Appel à candidatures de formateurs en radio	2
Resource: Top ten tips for using social media in radio	2
Nouvelles/News/Noticias	3
Togo: Ujit Condemns Threats to Journalists	3
Kenya: Sifa FM: 14 Years in the Making, So Far!	4
Namibia: N\$260 000 to Reach Farmers By Radio.....	4
Somalia: Journalist murdered in Galkayo	5
Guinea: New Guinean FM station sacks three top managers	5
Zimbabwe: Mugabe Regime Resumes Jamming SW Radio Africa Broadcasts.....	6
Côte d'Ivoire : Ivorian journalists welcome publication of guide for election media coverage.....	6
Kenya: Kenyan Islamic radio "disowns" employee arrested over alleged terrorist links	7
Zimbabwe: Zimbabwe urged to allow 'more players' in broadcasting sector.....	7
Angola : Angolan radio presenter gunned down	8
Liberia: Liberia Media Center is Five	8
Morocco/Sierra Leone: Cross-fertilized activities.....	9
Kenya: Kenyan FM radio station accused of bias	9
Malawi: Malawi vice-president "mistreated" reporters from state radio - ruling party	9
Africa: Solar-Powered Digital Radio in Rural Africa.....	10
Uganda: Another Ugandan journalist killed, "unknown assailants" blamed	11
Africa: Pass Radio Broadcasting in SA, Cameroon.....	11
Africa: Community Radio Can Bring Solutions to Social Problems - Official	11
Africa: UNESCO Defends Broadcasting Interconnection in Africa.....	12
Madagascar: Radio Fahazavana personnel freed; another opposition radio station suspended.....	12
Ghana:Radio journalist hospitalised following assault by ruling party supporters	13
Nouvelles en français	
Sénégal: Médias - Citizen Média Group obtient l'autorisation de fréquences	13
Congo-Kinshasa: Médias - La Radio Okapi remporte le Prix « Broadcasting journalism in USA »	13
Cameroun: Ebolowa - Les radios communautaires évaluées	14
Burkina Faso: Conseil Supérieur de la Communication : Vers le retrait de fréquences radios et téléés.....	15
Somalie: Un journaliste poignardé à mort au Puntland	15
Côte d'Ivoire: Soûn Tiguê : La rupture du jeûne par les ondes	16
RDC : Radio Tuungane à Minembwe au Sud Kivu	16
RDC : Radio Okapi prime par l'International Press Institute	17

Madagascar: Le personnel de Radio Fahazavana libéré, les programmes d'une radio suspendus.....	17
Centrafrique: Radio Centrafrique, reine de la débrouille	18
Ghana: 1 journaliste radio hospitalisé après avoir été agressé par des partisans du parti au pouvoir.....	18

RESOURCES / RESSOURCES

RDC: APPEL À CANDIDATURES DE FORMATEURS EN RADIO

<http://www.frpcmedias.net>

Dans le cadre de la mise en place de son réseau des journalistes formateurs locaux en radio (REFLORA), la Fédération des Radios de Proximité du Congo « FRPC » recrute les formateurs.

Profil :

- Résider en RD Congo;
- Avoir un titre académique;
- Avoir participé à une formation des formateurs en radio;
- Avoir assuré quelques formations en radio;
- Etre disponible pour les formations;
- Avoir une bonne moralité.

Ceux que la chose intéresse peuvent envoyer une lettre de motivation + CV au Secrétariat Exécutif National de la FRPC aux adresses suivantes : rigomalko@yahoo.fr ou federationradio_rdc@yahoo.fr en réservant une copie au coordonnateur provincial du réseau de radios de sa juridiction. Les candidatures féminines sont encouragées.

Un accusé de réception sera envoyé à tout expéditeur et seules les candidatures sélectionnées seront contactées.

Date limite : 24 septembre 2010 à 12h00

Source: FRPC, Communiqué et website, 16 sept. 2010

RESOURCE: TOP TEN TIPS FOR USING SOCIAL MEDIA IN RADIO

<http://www.slideshare.net/newsleader/crowdsourced-the-top-ten-tips-for-using-social-media-in-radio>

This slideshow briefly explains how to best use social media such as Twitter and Facebook to enrich radio. This topic is rarely addressed; yet interactions between social media and radio are common in some regions. The slideshow is quite straightforward and easy to understand. Some of the advice is little more than common sense, and can apply to general use of social media, not just in relation to radio (for example, "Use Twitter often but don't bombard people.") But it does raise some interesting ideas. It will help broadcasters to start thinking about how social media can be used to radio's advantage – such as using Twitter to get a feel for trends, or "what's hot and what's not."

Source: Farm Radio Weekly, Issue 125, 30 Aug. 2010

NOUVELLES/NEWS/NOTICIAS

(Posted from 28/08/2010 to 18/09/2010)

Africa: Community Radio Can Bring Solutions to Social Problems - Official	11
Africa: Pass Radio Broadcasting in SA, Cameroon.....	11
Africa: Solar-Powered Digital Radio in Rural Africa.....	10
Africa: UNESCO Defends Broadcasting Interconnection in Africa.....	12
Angola : Angolan radio presenter gunned down	8
Burkina Faso: Conseil Supérieur de la Communication : Vers le retrait de fréquences radios et télévisions.....	15
Cameroun: Ebolowa - Les radios communautaires évaluées	14
Centrafrique: Radio Centrafrique, reine de la débrouille	18
Congo-Kinshasa: Médias - La Radio Okapi remporte le Prix « Broadcasting journalism in USA ».....	13
Côte d'Ivoire : Ivorian journalists welcome publication of guide for election media coverage.....	6
Côte d'Ivoire: Soûn Tiguê : La rupture du jeûne par les ondes	16
Ghana: 1 journaliste radio hospitalisé après avoir été agressé par des partisans du parti au pouvoir.....	18
Ghana:Radio journalist hospitalised following assault by ruling party supporters	13
Guinea: New Guinean FM station sacks three top managers	5
Kenya: Kenyan FM radio station accused of bias	9
Kenya: Kenyan Islamic radio "disowns" employee arrested over alleged terrorist links	7
Kenya: Sifa FM: 14 Years in the Making, So Far!	4
Liberia: Liberia Media Center is Five	8
Madagascar: Le personnel de Radio Fahazavana libéré, les programmes d'une radio suspendus.....	17
Madagascar: Radio Fahazavana personnel freed; another opposition radio station suspended.....	12
Malawi: Malawi vice-president "mistreated" reporters from state radio - ruling party	9
Morocco/Sierra Leone: Cross-fertilized activities.....	9
Namibia: N\$260 000 to Reach Farmers By Radio.....	4
RDC : Radio Okapi prime par l'International Press Institute	17
RDC : Radio Tuungane à Minembwe au Sud Kivu	16
Sénégal: Médias - Citizen Média Group obtient l'autorisation de fréquences.....	13
Somalia: Journalist murdered in Galkayo	5
Somalie: Un journaliste poignardé à mort au Puntland	15
Togo: Ujit Condemns Threats to Journalists	3
Uganda: Another Ugandan journalist killed, "unknown assailants" blamed.....	11
Zimbabwe: Mugabe Regime Resumes Jamming SW Radio Africa Broadcasts.....	6
Zimbabwe: Zimbabwe urged to allow 'more players' in broadcasting sector.....	7

News (Les nouvelles en français suivent)

ALERT

FROM : 2010-08-29 [EN]

Togo: Ujit Condemns Threats to Journalists

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201008260043.html>

The Union of Independent Journalists of Togo (UJIT) in a statement to the Togolese authorities demanded protection of its members to enable them carry out their legitimate duties without fear or intimidation.

The August 10, 2010 statement said while some of its members have recently received threatening telephone calls, certain radio stations and newspapers have been under surveillance.

The Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA)'s correspondent in Togo reported that nine members of the UJIT have so far been targeted for attack.

Two of the journalists are Francis Pédro Amuzun and Justin Anani of privately-owned Le Crocodile newspaper. The others are Zeus Aziadouvo of Liberté, Olivier Glakpé, Le Correcteur, Jérôme

Sossou, Triangle des Enjeux, Augustin Amega, Le Canard Indépendant, Ferdinand Ayité, Journal Alternative, Isidore Akolor, Actu Express and Marcel Agbédokou of Radio X solaire.

The correspondent said following the threats, Justin Anani went briefly into hiding for fear his life. Meanwhile, UJIT has also condemned an August 10 threats issued by a French military officer to Komi Agbédivlo, a reporter of the privately-owned Liberté daily newspaper. The officer had forced the reporter to delete a photograph of him during a demonstration.

"This regrettable action by an officer from a country like France, whose authorities do not hide their commitment to the virtue of human rights, may compromise efforts made in recent times to ensure better cohabitation of the security forces and journalists in Togo," the statement said.

Source: Media Foundation for West Africa (Accra), 25 Aug. 2010: quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2010-08-29 [EN]

Kenya: Sifa FM: 14 Years in the Making, So Far!

<http://www.twrafrica.org/0275.asp>

The TWR-Kenya FM project has been 14 years in the making! Bernice Gatere, TWR-Kenya National Director, says that this project is her "big thing for God." She smiles and quotes John Haggai, who said, "Attempt something so impossible that unless God is in it, it's doomed to failure."¹

Since 1996, TWR-Kenya had been applying for an FM license to broadcast in Nairobi. After nine long years, a listener wrote in saying, "I know someone in the Ministry of Information, are you interested in meeting him?" This "someone" was not only a Senior Secretary in the Ministry of Information, but he and his wife were also very keen listeners of the TWR programme, Thru the Bible. His wife would record the broadcasts for him while he was at work.

Hearing about TWR's endeavor, he suggested TWR apply for a license in the towns which have available FM frequencies. He discovered that there were six. Miraculously, the government granted all of the applications! The condition, however, was that all six stations must begin broadcast simultaneously or the licenses would be revoked. Yet, all of these locations are inaccessible by tarmac and several are not even on the national power grid.

Bernice explained the problem to the government and asked for more time, and in response they added a license for Voi, a more accessible area. This is Kenya FM's flagship station – it is live, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Speaking about the listener responses coming in from Voi, Bernice says, "I just tell the Lord, "Thank you, it was worth it." The sleepless nights and the tears, people are coming to know the Lord. Every time the station manager comes to Nairobi and she tells us what is happening on the ground, it is very exciting!" [...]

Full report and source: Trans World Radio Africa Website, 28 July 2010

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-01 [EN]

Namibia: N\$260 000 to Reach Farmers By Radio

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201008310485.html>

The Meat Corporation of Namibia (Meatco) is investing N\$ 260 000 into an agricultural radio programme specifically aimed at keeping communal Namibian farmers informed about agricultural topics and updates.

Meatco signed an agreement with the Intu Media and Entertainment company last week, for the production of 48 programmes, of thirty minutes each, to be broadcast in four languages, over the next twelve months .

Called 'Farmers Voice' (FV), the series will be broadcast weekly on the National Broadcasting Corporations' (NBC) Oshiwambo, Setswana, Damara>Nama and Otjiherero radio services, reaching communal farmers in the most remote areas of the country.

"The goal is to breach the communication gap and strengthen the flow of information to and from previously disadvantaged farmers as a vehicle for the development of rural agricultural activities," said Project Manager of the Meatco Foundation, Uschi Ramakhutla. "Effective and timely communication with our stakeholders remains a priority for Meatco. 'Farmers Voice' has proven itself to be successful in three languages so far, not only in getting Meatco messages out, but also providing a platform for other role-players in agriculture, to inform, create awareness and educate communal farmers on industry related issues," Ramakhutla added.

In due course the FV radio series will be broadcast in even more local languages to ensure all farmers have access to this service.

The pilot phase of FV was launched in 2006, and after being tested on three different language services, and proving popular amongst its listeners, the programme will now be re-launched.

Topics covered on Farmers Voice include agricultural news headlines, current issues regarding the industry, educational interviews with experts in the field, weekly meat prices, and upcoming

agricultural events.

Farmers Voice is designed not only give information to farmers, but also give the opportunity to farmers to communicate among each other, for example when it comes to inviting fellow farmers to agricultural gatherings and meetings.

Farmers'Voice will be broadcast as follows: in Damara>Nama, Otjiherero and in Setswana Thursday nights at 21h00 and in Oshiwambo on Monday mornings at 07h00.

Source: The Namibian (Windhoek), 31 Aug. 2010; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

ALERT FROM : 2010-09-01 [EN]

Somalia: Journalist murdered in Galkayo

http://www.ifex.org/somalia/2010/09/01/gedi_murdered/

The National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ) condemns the brutal murder of journalist Abdullahi Omar Gedi, who was stabbed to death in the Galkayo District of Mudug region around 8 pm on 31 August 2010. Gedi was a newscaster and reporter for Radio Daljir.

Gedi, 25, was attacked by unknown assailants who stabbed him at least six times in the chest and legs in Garsoor village. He died from his wounds on his way to the General Hospital of Galkayo, according to his colleagues at Radio Daljir. His mobile was also stolen.

"We deplore the barbaric killing of Abdullahi Omar Gedi. The Puntland authorities must catch the killers and the brains behind Gedi's killing and bring them to justice," said Burhan Ahmed Dahir, NUSOJ Puntland Coordinator.

The motive of the killing is still unknown and no one was arrested for this brutal act, though the police and Puntland Intelligence Service questioned pedestrians. "Many crimes against journalists were committed with impunity but this time we will not accept the evasion of justice. We need justice," Burhan added.

The slaying is the latest in a string of attacks that have raised grave concerns about press freedom in Puntland. Abdifatah Jama Mire, director of Horseed Radio, is still being detained in Bossasso prison and is serving a six-year jail sentence.

Gedi, who worked for the Radio Daljir branch in Galkayo, is the third journalist to be killed in Somalia this year. Barkhad Awale Adan, the director of Hurmo Radio, was killed on 24 August 2010 in Mogadishu. Veteran journalist Sheik Nur Mohamed Abkey, who worked for Radio Mogadishu, was kidnapped and murdered on 4 May 2010 in Mogadishu.

Source: National Union of Somali Journalists quoted by IFEX, 1 Sept. 2010

NEWS FROM : 2010-09-02 [EN]

Guinea: New Guinean FM station sacks three top managers

Some members of management of the "Cherie-FM" radio station have been sacked by Chantal Colle who is at the same time chairperson and managing director [PDG] and promoter of that radio station and the ALO-Guinea group, for reasons yet to be made known, Guineenews learnt.

The decision for the dismissal in the meantime concerns the three top managers of the station namely the director-general, Mouctar Bah, the deputy director-general, Cherif Papus Gono and the director of programmes, Check Ahmed Tidiane Diallo, our source specified.

When contacted on telephone to verify this information, Madame Chantal Colle simply answered "Sir, if this is to confirm information, you are not obliged to pass through me, I am in Paris at the moment. You can contact the direction-general of the group in Conakry.

According to information at our disposal, relations between the PDG of "Cherie-FM" and her management have become particularly tense of late to the point that observers do not hesitate to conclude that it was totally predictable that this situation of perfect disenchantment would arise. If nothing is done about the dismissal of the top management staff members of "Cherie-FM", it is obvious that it will be a fatal blow to the future of the new press association called AMELGUI (Association of the Free Media in Guinea), which was initiated by Chantal herself and chaired by Mouctar Bah.

Cherie-FM is one of the new private radio stations in Conakry which is becoming more and more popular among the listeners because of the good quality of its programmes.

Source: Guineenews website, in French 3 Aug. 2010; translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring 02 Sept. 2010

ALERT FROM : 2010-09-04 [EN]

Zimbabwe: Mugabe Regime Resumes Jamming SW Radio Africa Broadcasts<http://allafrica.com/stories/201009030447.html>

Robert Mugabe's regime has resumed jamming news broadcasts from SW Radio Africa, despite the existence of the coalition government with the MDC, that is supposed to guarantee freedom of expression. On Wednesday evening the first half hour of our broadcast featuring Newsreel was drowned out by a heavy noise, sounding like a slow playing record.

SW Radio Africa listeners told us that soon after the news ended the jamming noise stopped and the rest of the broadcast featuring current affairs programming could be heard clearly.

Information Communication Technology Minister Nelson Chamisa told Newsreel he was not aware of the jamming. He said; 'We will have to start gathering our facts on the matter before coming up with our position.' Deputy Information Minister Murisi Zwizwai's phone went unanswered the whole day. But a source told us the Central Intelligence Organisation, which falls under the President's Office, is running the operation. [...]

SW Radio Africa is run by exiled Zimbabweans who, because of repressive media legislation, were not allowed to broadcast from home. In 2000 the station, then called Capital Radio, challenged government's broadcasting monopoly and won its case in the Supreme Court. But after just 6 days of broadcasting from a local hotel the station was shut down by Mugabe using his presidential powers.

While the initial jamming in 2005 was done when Zimbabwe was under the sole rule of Mugabe and ZANU PF, the situation is now different and, in theory, we have a unity government where responsibility must be shared by the MDC.

The national chairman of the Zimbabwe chapter of the Media Institute of Southern Africa Loughty Dube said; 'It's quite surprising because this inclusive government has made a commitment to promote a diversity of views and a diversity of media. It is imperative that they do not select which voice they want in this diversity.' [...]

Full report and source: SW Radio Africa (London), 2 Sept. 2010; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS FROM : 2010-09-08 [EN]

Côte d'Ivoire : Ivorian journalists welcome publication of guide for election media coverage

The national press officially received the guide for the media coverage of elections in Cote d'Ivoire yesterday. This guide comes as a bible that the media have to respect during elections in Cote d'Ivoire. I would like to add that this guide is the work of the CNCA, the National Audiovisual Communication Council, the CNP, the National Press Council, and the CEI, the Independent Electoral Commission. Ange Gosse has the details.

[Begin recording] [Gosse] It is a consensual guide for media coverage of elections in Cote d'Ivoire. Its elaboration is in response to a concern to prevent conflicts and excesses during this sensitive and delicate electoral period. It has been edited following a seminar which brought together journalists, regulatory authorities, namely the CNP and the CNCA, the CEI, members of the Ivorian administration, the political parties, and the Ivorian civil society.

[Franck Anderson Kouassi, chairman of the CNCA] The essentials of the guide are based on the code of ethics of the profession. As a result, we expect it to be respected.

[Gosse] The patron, National Assembly Speaker Mamadou Koulibaly, Honore Guie, chairman of the board directors of the RTI [Ivorian Radio and Television Company], media officials, and representatives of the diplomatic corps in Cote d'Ivoire received several copies of this guide. Communication Minister of Ibrahim Sy Savane invited the press to make a good use of it.

[Savane] This guide addresses itself to people of good faith and people of goodwill who want to want to be informed and not those who voluntarily go out of the right path [words indistinct].

[Denis Kah Zion, chairman of the Association of Press Editors of Cote d'Ivoire] We, Ivorian journalists, respond to this laudable initiative of the CEI, the CNP, and the CNCA because republican duty demands this from us The popularization of this guide, although long overdue, (?is important).

[Gosse] This guide will be widely distributed among the professionals of the press in order to consolidate the democratic process.

Source: Television Ivoirienne (Abidjan), in French, 2 Sept. 2010. Translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring 7 Sept. 2010

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-09 [EN]

Kenya: Kenyan Islamic radio "disowns" employee arrested over alleged terrorist links

A coast radio station yesterday distanced itself from activities of an employee arrested for alleged links with the 11 July Kampala bombing.

Radio Salaam FM, based in Mombasa, said the voice artist and part-time presenter Habib Suleiman [Njoroge], was previously working on contract. He had previously been fired after "ignoring internal policy matters".

Last year, the suspect reportedly went back to the station and was hired. The station said Suleiman had an impressive CV indicating he had worked for Iqra [Islamic FM radio station] and QFM [Swahili-language music FM station owned by leading Nation Media Group] in Nairobi before returning to the Coast [Province].

Programmes controller Abeid Mtsumi said they were unaware of the man's alleged links in the blast. He added that they would vet all employees.

The suspect, according to police, facilitated the travel arrangements for the masterminds. It was claimed that Suleiman's family own a car hire firm whose vehicles were used to execute the mission.

Sources said the suspects, who have since been charged with the murders, drove from Mombasa, with stopovers in Mtito Andei, Nairobi and Busia, before gaining entry into Kampala.

"We are as shocked as the public is and we did not know until the weekend when he was arrested by authorities. We have reassured the police of our commitment to help them with any information or questions that may require answers. As we wait for the conclusive outcome of investigations, we appeal to Muslims to stay calm. We will not protect any individual whose actions or activities may compromise the national security of Kenyans," said Mtsumi.

Hawa Ibrahim, the presenter's wife, was released on Monday night after being questioned by police over her husband's involvement in the bombing.

Provincial police boss, Leo Nyongesa, confirmed that they had questioned Hawa at the provincial headquarters.

"We are still commencing our investigations and so far we are getting possible leads that will reveal the masterminds of the bombing," he said.

There were claims that the suspect, who was arrested on Saturday and driven to Nairobi, would be taken to Kampala to answer to charges of murder.

Source: The Star (Nairobi), 08 Sept. 2010; quoted by BBC Monitoring 09 Sept. 2010

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-11 [EN]

Zimbabwe: Zimbabwe urged to allow 'more players' in broadcasting sector

Press freedom group Reporters Without Borders has called on the Zimbabwe government to open up the country's airwaves to allow more players in the broadcasting sector amid allegations that the dreaded Central Intelligence Organization (CIO) is jamming the frequencies used by a radio station run by exiled Zimbabweans based in the United Kingdom.

The Paris-based organization accused Harare's coalition regime of insincerity after it implemented token media reforms that saw the licensing of at least eight private newspapers early this year. President Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF) [Zimbabwe African National Union - Patriotic Front] has been resisting opening up the airwaves, long dominated by partisan state national broadcaster Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation (ZBC).

"The relaxation seen in the print media is clearly not on the cards for the broadcast media. We urge the national unity government to clarify this situation without delay and to guarantee the right of access to information," Reporters Without Borders said this week.

Mugabe and Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai agreed to name new members of the Broadcasting Authority of Zimbabwe, which issues licences to radio and television broadcasters, but critics say Zanu (PF) is dragging its feet, fearing the entrance of private players would end ZBC's monopoly. Reporters Without Borders blasted the jamming of the frequencies used by London-based SW Radio Africa by the CIO.

The spy agency has since September 1 jammed SW Radio news broadcasts, drowning out the news segment by a heavy noise that sounded like a slow playing record.

This is the second time the CIO has targeted SW Radio broadcasts in five years.

Mugabe's then Zanu (PF) dominated government used Chinese equipment to jam SW Radio, Voice of America's Studio 7 and Radio Voice of the People (VOP) in 2005.

The president regarded them as pirate stations that were broadcasting to Zimbabwe with the sole aim of overthrowing him.

Source: ZimOnline (Johannesburg), 10 Sept 2010; quoted by BBC Monitoring 11 Sept. 2010

ALERT FROM : 2010-09-11 [EN]

Angola : Angolan radio presenter gunned down

Following Sunday's murder in Angola of Alberto Graves Chakussanga, a radio journalist with a station critical of the ruling MPLA government, authorities must conduct a thorough and transparent investigation exploring all possible leads and bring those responsible to justice, the Committee to Protect Journalists said today.

Chakussanga's neighbours and relatives found the journalist lying in a corridor of his home in Luanda's Viana district with a bullet in his back early Sunday morning, according to local journalists. He had been the presenter of a weekly, Umbundu-language news call-in program on private Radio Despertar.

The motive for the killing was not immediately clear. Colleagues told CPJ that the only item missing from the house was a bottle of cooking gas. No arrests have been made.

"We condemn the murder of Alberto Chakussanga," said Africa Advocacy Coordinator Mohamed Keita. "We call on Angolan authorities to consider every possible motive for this killing including his journalism."

Chakussanga had a following with the Ovimbundu, Angola's largest ethnic group who originate from the south of the country, a stronghold of former rebel movement UNITA, according to local journalists. Radio Despertar was launched in December 2006, under the terms of a 2002 peace deal between the ruling MPLA and UNITA.

In a press conference on Tuesday, [7 September] Rui Falcao, secretary of information of the MPLA politburo accused Radio Despertar of repeatedly inciting the population to commit "civil disobedience" since Monday in support of the opposition former rebel movement UNITA, according to news reports.

The accusations were based on interviews and commentary that criticized the government's performance. In a press statement today, Radio Despertar rejected the allegations as "unfounded and slanderous," and asserted its editorial independence. Local journalists said the station has been critical of both UNITA and the authorities, and they allege that the government electronically interferes with its frequency in parts of Luanda.

Chakussanga, 32, was also a lecturer at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Agostinho Neto state university and at the Angolan police academy, according to local journalists. A few hours before his death, Chakussanga had left his pregnant wife at a hospital where she gave birth later that day to a baby boy, colleagues said.

Source: Committee to Protect Journalists (New York), Press release, 8 Sept. 2010; quoted by BBC Monitoring 10 Sept. 2010

NEWS FROM : 2010-09-13 [EN]

Liberia: Liberia Media Center is Five

The Liberia Media Center celebrates half a decade working to transform the Liberian media landscape.

The LMC started in the wake of the second Liberian civil war's conclusion in 2004 as a project of the Press Union of Liberia (PUL) and the Partnership for Conflict Prevention in West Africa. The center was conceived as a means of providing the Liberian media landscape with the requisite tools and environment to cope with the changed circumstances it was faced with at the time.

Five years on, the Executive Director of the LMC, Mr. Lawrence Randall foresees the institution continuing to play a vital role in helping to focus the changing developments on the local media and national scenes in a worthwhile way.

Mr. Randall stressed that the theme of this year's celebrations, "Strengthened Media for Transparent Elections" is meant to encapsulate the crucial nature of the pending 2011 general and presidential elections and the enormous task the media has at hand to provide proper coverage to the process.

The LMC's Executive Director indicated that as it has done over the past five years, the center is going to remain steadfast in proper capacity support to the entire Liberian media community to ensure that the media does an excellent job leading up to and after the electoral process.

In another development, the LMC has succeeded in returning Radio Bomi to the airwaves after nearly four months of being off air.

Radio Bomi received a new 300-watt transmitter and studio and recording equipment under the LMC's INFORMOTRAC extension which is being funded by the European Commission through the

Radio Netherlands Training Center (RNTC).

Under the program which also extends to 6 other community radio stations in 5 other counties, regular manpower capacity support in the form of trainings will be done at the 7 partner stations over the next 3 years.

INFORMOTRAC started operations in Liberia in 2007 with similar support to 10 partner community radio stations in 7 counties across Liberia, with funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, through the RNTC

Source: The Analyst (Monrovia), Friday, 27 Aug. 2010; circulated by INFORMOTRAC (Hilversum, Netherlands), 9 Sept. 2010

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-13 [EN]

Morocco/Sierra Leone: Cross-fertilized activities

In April, Serach for Common Ground sent two staff members from their Sierra Leone program, Ambrose James and Alimamy Kamara, to cross-fertilize activities in Fez, Morocco. The project was carried out in partnership with SNRT, Morocco's national radio and TV network, and the idea was to work with young people to develop innovative radio shows. As a direct result, six programs have already aired in Fez on such topics as the role of youth in Moroccan development and in mediating disputes.

Source: Common Ground Newsletter: Fall 2010, 8 Sept. 2010

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-16 [EN]

Kenya: Kenyan FM radio station accused of bias

The managing director of a parastatal has written to the National Cohesion and Integration Commission complaining about a vernacular radio station that criticized him.

The Agricultural Development Corporation boss, Mr William Kirwa, said the station disparaged him as it questioned his qualifications to hold the job.

He spoke as Eldoret politician Kipkorir arap Menjo said the same station, which broadcasts in Kalenjin language, was being used by some influential people to tarnish the image of prominent members of the community seen as eyeing some seats created by the new laws.

Mr Kirwa said the station was being used to tarnish those who supported the new laws during the referendum.

The criticism is said to have been made during a talk show last week.

Mr Menjo said: "It is not right for it to be used to drive a wedge between Kalenjin politicians and professionals by some people of questionable integrity."

Source: The Star (Nairobi), 15 Sept. 2010; quoted by BBC Monitoring 16 Sept. 2010

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-16 [EN]

Malawi: Malawi vice-president "mistreated" reporters from state radio - ruling party

http://www.nationmw.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5843:dpp-hits-back-at-joyce-banda&catid=1:national-news&Itemid=3

The ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) on Monday supported recent allegations by the Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC) that Vice-President Joyce Banda used to mistreat reporters assigned to cover her functions. The party also called on local media watchdogs to take up the issue.

But Banda, whose office released a statement clarifying her position on the matter over the weekend, on Monday refused to comment further.

DPP publicity secretary Hetherwick Ntaba made known the party's position in an interview on MBC which the station carried in its news bulletins

Ntaba said DPP wonders why the vice-president (in her weekend statement) dwelt on peripheral issues and failed to respond to the substantive complaint that she used to mistreat reporters.

Ntaba claimed the allegations levelled against Banda vindicated MBC reporters who earlier said they were working under difficult conditions when dealing with the vice-president. The DPP spokesperson claimed the vice-president went to the point of threatening cabinet ministers on her coverage.

On whether the party has discussed the matter before going public with the same, Ntaba said the issue has not been tackled at the National Governing Council (NGC) level.

Said Ntaba: "But it is not a policy of the DPP (for the vice-president) to speak in an intimidatory fashion. This is not what the party condones.

"We have expressed our views and we will see what follows. What follows will determine what we will do next. But the misunderstanding between the VP and MBC should be resolved, that is one of

our wishes."

Ntaba also criticised some non-state actors such as the Public Affairs Committee (PAC) and the National Media Institute of Southern Africa (Namisa) who recently condemned the statement made by President Bingu wa Mutharika that he would close down newspapers that report negatively about him and his administration.

Ntaba claimed these media watchdogs were up to something and that they might have received something to voice the concerns. He called on Namisa to act on the allegations of the mistreatment of reporters by the vice-president.

Namisa executive director Aubrey Chikungwa refused to comment on the issue, saying: "We have never received a complaint on that matter, so I would not want to comment."

Last week, former Minister of Information and Civic Education Leckford Thotho and former minister of gender, child and community development, Patricia Kaliati, took turns on MBC Radio 1 to justify why the public broadcaster stopped covering the vice-president's functions.

MBC controller of news and current affairs Mzati Nkolokosa also joined the ministers by saying Banda used to scold reporters. Nkolokosa said MBC stopped covering Banda because she used her power to dictate to the editorial team how to cover her functions.

But deputy press officer in the Office of the Vice-President Ruth Govati on Monday said their office would not make further comments on the allegations.

Source: The Nation website (Blantyre), 14 Sept. 2010; quoted by BBC Monitoring 16 Sept. 2010

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-17 [EN]

Africa: Solar-Powered Digital Radio in Rural Africa

<http://www.voanews.com/english/news/africa/decapua-africa-lifepayer-15sept10-102973194.html>

There isn't much modern technology in many parts of rural Africa. But one thing those areas do have is abundant sunshine. The Lifeline Energy Company is using that age-old resource to power 21st century technology on the continent.

This week, the charitable organization launches the Lifepayer, a solar-powered digital, MP3-enabled radio. The device costs between 80 and 120 US dollars, depending on features and memory capacity. The major funder of Lifepayer is actor Tom Hanks.

"The Lifepayer is the first of its kind, (an) MP3-enabled radio and it's been designed and engineered specifically for the humanitarian sector," says Lifeline Energy CEO Kristine Pearson. Lifepayer is an AM / FM radio and also has three shortwave radio bands. As for its audio storage capacity, Pearson says, "It's capable of holding 64 gigabytes of content. That's literally years' worth of programming. It's books, dictionaries, podcasts - any kind of audio programming."

"There are several ways that you can add content. You can provide us with content, which is what some of our partner organizations are doing. Educational content. It can be loaded at the factory. Alternatively, there's a slot in the front that takes a micro SD card and you can load content that comes across 3G networks from a mobile phone," she says.

Audio can also be downloaded from the internet onto a PC or laptop and then transferred to the Lifepayer. The device cannot be directly linked to the internet.

"On top of that," says Pearson, "you can record radio programmes. Radio programmes are great, but if everybody isn't there to listen to them you never get a chance to listen again."

The Lifepayer is not designed for individual or family use. One reason is cost.

"This is really a tool to deliver education and community level content. So, it would be adopted by schools, by health clinics, by governments, who want to upscale their government workers," she says.

The Lifepayer has a sound system that Pearson says can be heard by an audience of 60 to 100 people. Additional speakers can be added.

Lifeline Energy, former known as Freeplay Foundation, teamed with the VOA in 2003 to launch a project using Lifeline radio. The goal was to help Burundian refugees in Tanzania. Pearson says it was "the first windup and solar powered radio for the humanitarian sector".

Some groups plan to use the Lifepayer for teacher training programmes and primary school curriculums. Pearson says in Liberia it will be used to help rebuild the country's palm oil sector.

"They're interested in using the Lifepayer to load it with agricultural content. But it would also have content about health, life skills, financial literacy," she says.

"We believe that an investment in a tool of this nature that really can deliver education and information anytime, anywhere, has the potential to create real systemic social change."

Pearson was named a Time Magazine Hero of the Environment in 2007. She currently serves on the Women's Leadership Board of the Kennedy School of government at Harvard University.

Source: VOA News.com website (Washington DC), 16 Sept. 2010; quoted by BBC Monitoring 17 Sept. 2010

ALERT FROM : 2010-09-17 [EN]

Uganda: Another Ugandan journalist killed, "unknown assailants" blamed<http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/-/688334/1011324/-/cnpmgcz/-/index.html>

A journalist was on Wednesday [15 September] morning beaten to death by unknown assailants wielding metal bars in Mukono District [central Uganda].

The killing comes three days after Joseph Kiggundu, a journalist who was working for Top Radio was killed by a mob of bodaboda cyclists in Rakai District [southern Uganda].

According to Human Rights Network for Journalists (HRNJ-Uganda), Mr Dickson Ssentongo, a news anchor with Prime Radio was waylaid by unidentified men at Nantabulirirwa village who reportedly hit him at 5:00 a.m. [0200gmt].

Mr Ssentongo is said to have been on his way to his working station on foot to catch a taxi on the main road. "They dragged him about 100 meters away from the scene of crime where they left him lying unconscious in a pool of blood," the statement from UHRJ says.

The 29-year-old journalist joined the Kireka-based Seventh Day Adventist church-owned radio two years ago as a Luganda news anchor. He has also been a court assessor for the Mukono high court circuit. He joined active politics and was an aspiring councillor for Nantabulirirwa Parish at Ggoma Subcounty on the ticket of the [opposition] Democratic Party.

Mr Ssentongo died at Mulago Hospital where he had been rushed for treatment.

This seems to be a resurgence of attacks of media practitioners since a similar case was last reported in 2004 when Ms Wilbroad Kasujja, a news anchor at a community radio in Buwama was raped and killed. No conclusive investigations have been made and produced. HRNJ condemned the atrocities and demanded that Police acts expeditiously to bring to book all the culprits.

Uganda Journalists Association(UJA) President Joshua Kyalimpa has urged all journalists in the country to dress in black this Friday to show solidarity in mourning of the killed colleagues.

Source: Daily Monitor website (Kampala), 16 Sept. 2010; quoted by BBC Monitoring 17 Sept. 2010

NEWS FROM : 2010-09-18 [EN]

Africa: Pass Radio Broadcasting in SA, Cameroon<http://www.panafricanspacestation.org.za/wp-content/uploads/player/>

The Pan African Space Station (PASS) cyber-radio project, launched on Saturday, 11 September 2010, is now broadcasting live from Cape Town and Cameroon.

PASS Radio is an online portal that streams unprogrammed content, interviews, music, live recordings, and musical debate.

For the first time in 2010 PASS has created a mirror studio in Limbe, Cameroon and will be including this content in the continuous live stream until the station closes on 12 October 2010.

PASS also unveiled on Saturday night the "space queen Bianca, the Othaship Bianca" - a sound installation on St Georges Mall, Cape Town that reverberates and shares PASS Radio in real time with passerbys.

PASS Radio has featured the musical insights of DJ Andy Williams, Kolade, Boeta Gee, DJ Ntone Edjabe, Neo Muyanga, Plantation Miners, DJ Mighty, Audiodramatist, Xolisa-Soullife (with commentary from BokaniDyer and Sakhile Moleshe), and others.

PASS is an annual cross-genre music intervention, that is curated by Ntone Edjabe and Neo Muyanga, and presented by the Africa Centre. In addition to the cyber platform, PASS also features a live music festival in Cape Town between 28 September - 2 October 2010.

Go to www.panafricanspacestation.org.za for details of participating artists.

Source: Biz-Community, 15 Sept. 2010; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS FROM : 2010-09-18 [EN]

Africa: Community Radio Can Bring Solutions to Social Problems - Official<http://allafrica.com/stories/201009150322.html>

The social problems seriously hitting the African continent, such as widespread of HIV/AIDS, violence against women and educational situation of children, can be fought off with the support of community radio.

This was said Tuesday in Luanda by the director of the privately-owned Luanda Antenna Commercial Radio (LAC), Luísa Françonny.

Luisa Françonny was speaking to Angop on the sidelines of her address to the 8th General Assembly of the Southern Africa Broadcasting Association (SABA) where she spoke of the social impact of

community radio. She stressed the essential and positive aspects in the creation of community radios in inland communities.

Source: Angola Press Agency, 14 Sept. 2010; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-18 [EN]

Africa: UNESCO Defends Broadcasting Interconnection in Africa

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201009150295.html>

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) wants a greater interconnection among broadcasting stations in Africa, in the dissemination of contents related to literacy in community.

This was said by UNESCO's information official, Alton Grizzel, while addressing the 8th General Assembly of the Southern Africa Broadcasting Association (SABA) taking place in Luanda since Sunday.

The official was presenting the topic "Directions on promotion of information and literacy contents for broadcasting".

According to Alton Grizzel, for African region, both literacy and information connect the community in terms of democracy and development which help the increased participation of citizen in obtaining information.

He said broadcasting should be competitive in the social network, being committed to strategy toward the audience, thus promoting the literacy.

The Southern Africa Broadcasting Association (SABA) is a non-profit, non-governmental umbrella organisation comprising commercial, private, community and public broadcasting enterprises in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) region.

SABA was launched in November 1993 with the objective of enhancing professionalism and the credibility of public broadcasting in the region.

Source: Angola Press Agency, 14 Sept. 2010; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

ALERT

FROM : 2010-09-18 [EN]

Madagascar: Radio Fahazavana personnel freed; another opposition radio station suspended

http://www.ifex.org/madagascar/2010/09/15/radio_fahazavana_staff_released/

Reporters Without Borders hails the conditional release on 8 September 2010 of the 10 Radio Fahazavana employees who have been in pre-trial detention since 27 May, even if they still have to face trial on a charge of inciting a revolt, but condemns a government decision to suspend the broadcasts of another radio station, Radio Mahafaly, until further notice.

"We are relieved to learn that the Radio Fahazavana employees are free and have been reunited with their families," Reporters Without Borders said. "The formal judicial investigation is finally due to begin this month and we reiterate our call for a fair trial that is not subject to political pressure."

The press freedom organisation added: "We deplore the fact that political tension between the members of the transitional government and the leaders of the opposition continues to impact the media. The suspension of Radio Mahafaly, an opposition station, is a flagrant example of this."

The 10 Radio Fahazavana employees who have just been released are editor-in-chief Josiane Ranaivo, five of the station's other journalists (Lolo Ratsimba, Jaona Raôly, Tiana Maharavo, Philémon Raveloarison and Tiburce Soavinarivo), two technicians and two security guards.

They were arrested by soldiers on the evening of 20 May for allegedly encouraging a mutiny earlier that day by gendarmes at Fort-Duchesse, and were transferred to the capital's Antanimora prison on 27 May on charges of inciting a revolt and rebellion.

The same day that they were released, officials announced that the broadcasts of Radio Mahafaly, a station based in the central city of Antsirabé, were being suspended "until further notice." A communication ministry delegation accompanied by police went to the station to enforce the measure. No equipment was seized and the station's journalists are not been denied access to its premises, but they are not allowed to broadcast.

The station's staff said they did not know the reason for the suspension order. "All our papers are in order," station manager Mamy Andrianjafisololo told Reporters Without Borders. "After a trial period in 2009, we obtained a proper licence in May of this year," he said, adding that he suspected the suspension was politically motivated. The station is owned by the municipality of Antsirabé, whose mayor, Olga Ramalason, supports deposed President Marc Ravalomanana.

Full report and source: Reporters sans frontières and IFEX, 15 Sept. 2010

ALERT FROM : 2010-09-18 [EN]

Ghana: Radio journalist hospitalised following assault by ruling party supportershttp://www.ifex.org/ghana/2010/09/10/afriyea_attacked/

On the morning of 8 September 2010, Alexander Afriyea, a correspondent of Kumasi-based Nhyira FM radio station, was hospitalised after being violently attacked by persons believed to be supporters of the ruling National Democratic Congress (NDC) party in Effiduase, the capital of Sekyere East District of Ashanti Region.

A colleague of the journalist, Kwabena Ampratwum, told Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA) that: "Afriyea was gasping for breath, lying on one side and could only move his head on the bed at the time I visited him at the hospital."

The correspondent had gone to cover rampaging NDC supporters who were demanding the dismissal of the Chief Executive of the District.

Ampratwum said "Afriyea, who is an aspirant in the forthcoming district assembly election, was accused of being a member of the opposition New Patriotic Party by the angry NDC supporters.

Source: Media Foundation for West Africa (Accra) quoted by IFEX, 10 Sept. 2010

Nouvelles

NEWS FROM : 2010-08-29 [FR]

Sénégal: Médias - Citizen Média Group obtient l'autorisation de fréquences<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201008280149.html>

Citizen Média Group vient d'obtenir des fréquences télé et radio. Selon un communiqué officiel, c'est jeudi dernier que le ministre de la Communication a remis l'autorisation de fréquence au groupe.

Citizen Média Group va émettre en radio et télé sur les 106.4 MHz et le canal 25 UHF. Selon un communiqué du ministre de la Communication, c'est jeudi dernier que Moustapha Guirassy a remis les documents attestant l'autorisation de fréquence au directeur financier du Group qui a représenté la fondatrice, Oumou Wane.

La demande de fréquence avait été rappelée au président de la République, Abdoulaye Wade, en mars dernier lors d'une séance de dictée au palais de la République à laquelle plusieurs ministres avait pris part. Et le chef de l'Etat avait donné son accord verbal. Citée par le texte, Oumou Wane, qui devient ainsi la première femme patronne de groupe de presse, s'est dit 'heureuse, fière mais consciente de la responsabilité de détenir des moyens de communication aussi sensibles qu'une radio et une télé'.

La fondatrice de Citizen Média Group salue le geste du gouvernement du Sénégal. Qui, par ce geste, souligne-t-elle, 'promeut ses fils et surtout ses filles'. Pour sa part, le ministre de la Communication, Porte-parole du gouvernement a indiqué que cette énième octroi de fréquences télé et radio est à inscrire dans 'la politique de libéralisation de l'audiovisuel imprimée par Me Abdoulaye Wade depuis 2000 et traduit la vitalité de la démocratie sénégalaise'.

Citizen Média Group, qui a une vocation éducative, culturelle et sportive, est une société sénégalaise oeuvrant pour la diffusion de l'information et de l'éducation au Sénégal, plus particulièrement de sa jeunesse. Elle est dirigée par Oumou Wane et diffuse des émissions culturelles sur la chaîne de télévision publique Rts 1. Citizen match, le jeu du savoir citoyen dont la diffusion a commencé le 11 décembre 2006, se classe n°1 des émissions ludo-éducatives au Sénégal. Citizen dictée sans faute créée en septembre 2008 et Citizen Tv Jobs lancée le 1er mai 2009 complètent les émissions du groupe.

Source: Wal Fadji (Dakar), 28 août 2010: repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS FROM : 2010-08-31 [FR]

Congo-Kinshasa: Médias - La Radio Okapi remporte le Prix « Broadcasting journalism in USA »<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201008300340.html>

Pour avoir excellé dans ses qualités de « leader émergent », le journaliste Donat Paulin Mbaya Madimba de la Radio Okapi vient de remporter le Prix « Broadcasting journalism in USA ».

Créé en faveur des visiteurs étrangers, la palme du programme culturel « Broadcasting journalism in USA » du département américain a été remportée par Donat Madimba, journaliste à la Radio

Okapi. Cette récompense lui a ainsi valu un voyage, du 17 au 30 juillet 2010 dans trois villes américaines, dont Washington, Georgie et Floride.

Du retour à Kinshasa, le lauréat a fait la restitution de son séjour, le jeudi 26 août 2010 au Centre culturel américain (American corner), situé dans l'enceinte de l'Université protestante du Congo, dans la commune de Lingwala. C'était lors d'un point de presse organisé par l'ambassade des Etats-Unis d'Amérique en RDC. La visite a tourné autour des communications et échanges d'expériences entre Donat Mbaya et ses confrères américains.

Après des visites effectuées dans les organes de presse américains tant audiovisuels que de la presse écrite, Donat Madimba a tiré quelques leçons. La première c'est que les médias américains sont bien organisés, avec tous les moyens possibles leur permettant d'atteindre les objectifs qu'ils se sont assignés. Ensuite, la presse aux Etats-Unis s'appuie beaucoup plus sur l'idée de la recherche du bonheur basée sur la décentralisation, la transparence, la défense de liberté d'expression.

A en croire le lauréat, le métier de la presse tel que pratiqué en République démocratique du Congo, diffère à bien d'égard de celui pratiqué aux USA. Donat Madimba situe cette différence à deux niveaux, à savoir les lois et l'environnement médiatique de deux pays. La loi régissant le secteur médiatique en Amérique favorise plus la liberté d'expression. Pour preuve, elle n'a pas institué un ministère en charge de la Communication.

Parlant de l'environnement médiatique, Donat Madimba a indiqué que les médias américains ont investi beaucoup de moyens dans le seul but de la recherche du bénéfice. Alors qu'en RDC, les médias ont des objectifs flous, cachés : ils sont tournés soit vers l'éducation, soit dans la recherche du bénéfice

Deux structures dans le monde médiatique américain ont aussi attiré l'attention du journaliste congolais. L'une assurant la protection des intérêts des professionnels des médias, l'autre analysant le comportement de ces derniers. Ce, dans le but de les aider, avec des conseils pratiques, à éviter tout dérapage dans leur profession.

Bénéficiant d'un statut juridique privé, ces deux structures médiatiques en Amérique, sont très différentes de la Haute autorité des médias ou du prochain Conseil supérieur de l'audiovisuel en République démocratique du Congo qui sont étatiques. C'est à ce titre que Donat Madimba a émis le vœu de voir ces deux structures émerger aussi en République démocratique du Congo.

L'autre point marquant du séjour aux USA du confrère de la Radio Okapi a été la visite dans les installations de différents organes, agences de presse et établissements de formation en journalisme.

Le programme « Broadcasting journalisme in USA » a été mis en place par le département des Etats-Unis d'Amérique à travers leurs représentations dans le monde. Ce programme vise à favoriser les échanges entre médias américains et ceux étrangers. Il est aussi destiné aux leaders du monde.

Source: Le Potentiel (Kinshasa), 30 Aug. 2010 ; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-01 [FR]

Cameroun: Ebolowa - Les radios communautaires évaluées

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201008310574.html>

Un atelier sur le fonctionnement et les motivations du mouvement a ouvert ses portes mardi. Les responsables des radios communautaires participent depuis mardi et ce jusqu'au jeudi 26 août 2010, à un atelier de renforcement de leurs capacités sur le fonctionnement et les motivations de la croix-rouge. Ils sont une quinzaine issus de toutes les régions du pays à avoir effectué le déplacement de la capitale régionale du sud.

La rencontre en question s'inscrit dans la suite du partenariat établi en 2007 à Kribi entre les radios communautaires et la Croix-Rouge camerounaise qui travaille elle-même en collaboration avec le Comité International de la Croix-Rouge (Cicr). Selon Christiane Breme, déléguée à la coopération du Cicr Afrique centrale, "Les radios communautaires constituent des supports médiatiques de poids dans les actions de sensibilisation du mouvement parce qu'elles sont des médias de proximité.

Nous portons notre choix sur ces radios parce qu'elles touchent directement les populations locales", a-t-elle précisé à l'ouverture des travaux ponctués pour l'essentiel d'exposés riches d'enseignements. Il apparaît selon Joly Koum, volontaire en charge des questions de communication à la Croix-Rouge que . Certains participants présents à la session de capacitation d'Ebolowa ont déjà fait le tour du Cameroun avec la Croix-Rouge qui, non seulement leur donne des outils sur le bien fondé de la défense des grandes causes humanitaires, mais aussi les appuie en logistiques de travail".

C'est dans ce sens en effet qu'ils ont reçu des dictaphones, des cassettes, des CD et des piles en

présence du premier adjoint préfectoral qui leur a demandé d'en faire bon usage.

Source: Le Quotidien Mutations (Yaoundé), 31 Août 2010; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-03 [FR]

Burkina Faso: Conseil Supérieur de la Communication : Vers le retrait de fréquences radios et télévisions

<http://www.lefaso.net/spip.php?article38324>

La 63ème session ordinaire du collège des conseillers s'est tenue le mercredi 1er septembre 2010 au siège du Conseil supérieur de la communication (CSC) sous la présidence de sa Présidente, Mme Béatrice Damiba. L'ordre du jour comportait douze points relatifs à des questions de régulation, à des questions spécifiques, à des comptes rendus d'activités et enfin à des informations diverses. [...]

Le Conseil a, par ailleurs, décidé de l'organisation d'une audition collective, dans le courant de mois de septembre, des radios qui avaient été ajournées à l'occasion du renouvellement de 26, le 8 juillet 2010. Le Conseil s'est également penché sur le cas des dix radios et des sept stations de télévision qui avaient bénéficié, par souci de clémence, d'une prolongation très exceptionnelle de six (6) mois et dont le délai de démarrage est arrivé à expiration le 15 août 2010. Trois (3) d'entre elles ont effectivement démarré leurs programmes. Quatre (4) ont adressé des lettres demandant un dernier sursis au Conseil tout en donnant des assurances et des délais pour démarrer. Le Conseil, après en avoir délibéré, et sous réserve d'informations complémentaires à fournir par les quatre médias, a décidé du retrait des fréquences, conformément à la procédure.

Le Conseil a discuté de la question des stations relais et apporté une modification à la Décision y relative. Désormais, les attributions et les autorisations d'exploitation de fréquences relais pour le compte des radiodiffusions sonores privées nationales sont définitivement arrêtées, ce pour, entre autres, préserver la diversité et la viabilité des radios de proximité. [...]

Enfin le Conseil a été informé des prochaines visites au Burkina Faso des instances de régulation de la communication du Mali et du Niger, ainsi que de l'organisation par la HACA du Maroc d'un séminaire sur le pluralisme médiatique. Il a pris connaissance de correspondances échangées avec des médias locaux sur leurs projets et entendu un bref compte rendu du voyage d'études de la Mutuelle des travailleurs du CSC au Ghana et au Togo du 16 au 25 août 2010.

Texte complet et source: CSC (Ouagadougou) communiqué de presse, repris par lefaso.net, 2 sept. 2010

ALERT

FROM : 2010-09-04 [FR]

Somalie: Un journaliste poignardé à mort au Puntland

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201009010771.html>

Reporters sans frontières exprime sa profonde tristesse après l'assassinat d'Abdullahi Omar Gedi, journaliste de Radio Daljir, le 31 août 2010 à Galkayo, capitale de la région semi-autonome du Puntland.

Vers 20 heures, alors que le journaliste revenait du travail, des inconnus l'ont attaqué et poignardé à six reprises au torse et aux jambes avant de s'enfuir avec son téléphone portable. Ce journaliste de 25 ans est décédé lors de son transfert à l'hôpital.

"Nous condamnons cette agression et la mort de ce jeune journaliste. Pour le moment, aucun mobile n'a été avancé et aucun suspect n'a été arrêté. Nous demandons aux autorités du Puntland de tout mettre en oeuvre pour faire la lumière sur cette affaire", a déclaré l'organisation.

Reporters sans frontières déplore une dégradation des conditions de travail des journalistes au Puntland. Fin 2009, Mohammed Yasin Isak, correspondant de Voice of America dans la région, a rencontré de sérieuses difficultés qui l'ont empêché d'effectuer correctement sa mission d'information. D'abord pris à partie par la police, il a ensuite été blessé par balles lors d'un contrôle à un check-point.

Le 14 août dernier, Abdifatah Jama Mire, directeur de Horseed Media FM, a été condamné à six ans de prison pour avoir diffusé un entretien avec un chef rebelle lié à Al-Qaïda. Plus d'informations. Abdullahi Omar Gedi est le troisième journaliste à perdre la vie en Somalie depuis le début de l'année 2010. Le 24 août dernier à Mogadiscio, Barkhat Awale, directeur de Radio Hurma, a été victime d'une balle perdue alors qu'il se trouvait sur le toit de sa radio avec un technicien. Plus d'informations. Sheik Nur Mohamed Abkey, journaliste à Radio Mogadiscio, a quant à lui été tué par des hommes armés, le 4 mai 2010, alors qu'il rejoignait son domicile dans la capitale. Plus d'informations.

Source: Reporters sans Frontières (Paris), 1 Sept. 2010; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-06 [FR]

Côte d'Ivoire: Soûn Tiguê : La rupture du jeûne par les ondes<http://www.avenue225.com/soun-tigue-la-rupture-du-jeune-par-les-ondes>

Difficile pour les musulmans de Dimbokro de ne pas entendre la voix du muezzin à l'heure de la rupture du jeûne. Voici un peu plus de quatre ans qu'ils sont habitués à rompre le jeûne grâce à la voix des 89.8 Mhz, qui durant tout le mois de ramadan inondent la région du N'zi Comoé du cri du muezzin. Ce cri mélodieux, attendu par des musulmans (éprouvés pour certains, affamés pour d'autres) est une véritable libération quand on l'entend par le canal de Radio la Voix du N'zi via l'émission Soûn Tiguê.

L'histoire d'une émission

Soûn Tiguê (rupture du jeûne en malinké) est une émission qui naît d'une volonté de la Direction de Radio la Voix du N'zi d'éduquer les musulmans de la ville de Dimbokro au respect du mois du ramadan. Cette émission affectueusement désignée par les animateurs de ladite station comme étant "l'émission par excellence" de la chaîne a un taux d'audience élevé à cause d'une forte communauté musulmane présente dans la ville. Elle est animée par El Hadj Tondossama Yaya qui a en charge toutes les émissions à caractère Islamique de la radio. Il façonne l'émission pour la rendre plus interactive : la rupture du jeûne se fait chaque soir en direct du domicile d'une famille musulmane. « Chaque soir nous rendons visite à une famille et nous échangeons sur des questions touchant à la culture islamique. On partage ensuite le repas de la rupture du jeûne et les auditeurs vivent l'ambiance de la famille en live » précise El Hadj Tondossama Yaya. Le découpage mécanique de l'émission est le suivant : lecture du coran traduit en français, écoute de chants des chorales islamiques, le hazane (cri du muezzin) à l'heure de la rupture suivi du zikre enfin la rupture du jeûne au domicile d'une famille. [...]

Texte complet et source: Avenue225 (Côte d'Ivoire), Blog, 3 sept. 2010

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-13 [FR]

RDC : Radio Tuungane à Minembwe au Sud Kivu

Dans une zone accablée par les conflits ethniques, la radio Tuungane est une source d'information, canalisant les rumeurs pour mieux les gérer. Elle agit donc comme constructeur de la paix et remplit son rôle d'outil de communication et presque tout autre rôle que l'on puisse imaginer, selon le Directeur Innocent Nsengimana (Photo ci-contre dans son bureau à Minembwe) : « On voulait changer l'image négative de notre zone en mettant fin aux stéréotypes afin d'améliorer le bien-être et promouvoir le développement de la population locale. »

La radio Tuungane qui veut dire « se rassembler » en Swahili a été créée en 2009 à la demande de l'association développement locale APDIK (Association Paysanne pour le Développement Intégré au Sud-Kivu) qui avait insisté sur le fait que l'absence d'une radio empêchait la capacité de la communauté à se développer. Selon le Directeur, quand la radio Tuungane a commencé à diffuser, ce fut pour la première fois que les personnes pouvaient écouter une radio locale.

Après quelques mois d'opération, la radio a déjà eu un impact sur la communauté de Minembwe. Via des émissions sur la cohabitation paisible, la coopération économique et le développement durable, les citoyens de la communauté commencent à travailler ensemble afin d'améliorer leur qualité de vie et de réduire les conflits dans leur milieu. Petit à petit, la radio s'est construite une réputation solide sur base de ses reportages honnêtes et factuels couvrant des événements locaux. « Tout le monde apprécie l'initiative, les gens nous appellent à la radio pour nous le dire, » dit Nsengimana.

Malgré son succès, le directeur admet que les conflits entre les différents groupes ethniques de la communauté existent toujours, mais il insiste qu'ils sont maintenant moins importants : « La radio contrôle des rumeurs et cela aide beaucoup. Maintenant, tout le monde écoute la radio pour savoir réellement ce qui se passe. » Ce changement est non-négligeable dans une zone où les rumeurs peuvent très bien conduire vers la violence si elles ne sont pas circonscrites de manière adéquate. Avec une équipe de cinq personnes, la radio réussit à diffuser du contenu utile et fiable à plus de 700 000 auditeurs dans l'extrême sud de la province de Sud Kivu. Comme pour toutes les radios de proximité, le financement demeure le plus grand obstacle. Cette radio cherche activement un financement pour l'année 2011 quand sa subvention avec le National Endowment for Democracy (NED) arrivera à terme.

Pour en savoir plus sur la Radio Tuungane, veuillez vous mettre en contact avec le Directeur Innocent Nsengimana à apdikgisenga@yahoo.fr.

Source : Radio for Peacedbuilding Africa (RfPA), Bulletin d'information, 7 sept. 2010

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-13 [FR]

RDC : Radio Okapi prime par l'International Press Institute<http://www.radiookapi.net>

International Press Institute, la plus ancienne association internationale de journalistes pour la défense de la liberté d'expression, a annoncé le 7 septembre 2010 la remise de son prix annuel "Free Media Pioneer Award" à Radio Okapi, la radio créée et gérée en partenariat en République démocratique du Congo par les Nations Unies et la Fondation Hironnelle. "C'est une joie et un honneur pour IPI de nommer Radio Okapi son 15ème "Pionnier des Médias Libres", a dit dans un communiqué Alison Bethel McKenzie, Directrice par interim d'IPI. Elle a précisé que Radio Okapi était "un exemple éblouissant non seulement pour les autres médias dans les régions en conflit ou post-conflit, mais aussi pour les autres stations de radio à travers le monde".

Alison McKenzie a salué le "professionnalisme, les standards élevés et le courage" de Radio Okapi et de ses journalistes, avant de conclure "nous saluons Radio Okapi, la Fondation Hironnelle et les Nations Unies pour leurs efforts permanents pour apporter des informations sur la République Démocratique du Congo à tous les citoyens de ce pays et au Monde". Le Prix sera remis officiellement ce dimanche 12 septembre à Vienne à Léonard Mulamba, rédacteur en chef de Radio Okapi, lors du 60ème Congrès annuel d'IPI qui réunira des journalistes et responsables de médias du monde entier, en présence de nombreuses personnalités dont le Président de la République Autrichien et la Première Ministre Slovaque.

La Fondation Hironnelle se réjouit de cette récompense apportée à une radio créée en RDC en février 2002, et qui s'est imposée depuis, grâce au travail de tout son personnel, à la qualité de ses programmes et au sérieux de ses informations, comme une véritable institution nationale, au service de toute la population congolaise.

Source : d'après Fondation Hironnelle (Lausanne), Communiqué de presse, 8 sept. 2010

ALERT

FROM : 2010-09-17 [FR]

Madagascar: Le personnel de Radio Fahazavana libéré, les programmes d'une radio suspendushttp://fr.rsf.org/madagascar-le-personnel-de-radio-fahazavana-10-09-2010_38340.html [...]

Le 8 septembre 2010, la rédactrice en chef de Radio Fahazavana, Josiane Ranaivo, cinq journalistes, Lolo Ratsimba, Jaona Raôly, Tiana Maharavo, Philémon Raveloarison, et Tiburce Soavinarivo, ainsi que quatre autres employés, ont tous bénéficié d'une libération provisoire après avoir passé 110 jours en détention (Lire le témoignage de Josiane Ranaivo). Accusés d'avoir incité la population à la révolte et à la rébellion au cours de la journée du 20 mai dernier, théâtre d'une mutinerie des gendarmes du camp Fort-Duchesne, les membres de la radio avaient été arrêtés le soir même par des militaires. Lire le communiqué précédent.

Le jour même de la libération du personnel de Radio Fahazavana, la radio Mahafaly, émettant à Antsirabé (centre du pays), a été frappée d'une mesure de suspension d'émission "jusqu'à nouvel ordre". En collaboration avec les forces de l'ordre locales, une délégation du ministère de la Communication s'est rendue sur place afin de faire exécuter la décision de fermeture. Aucun matériel n'a été saisi et l'accès à la radio n'a pas été interdit. Les journalistes peuvent continuer de travailler, mais l'accès à l'antenne leur est refusé.

Les responsables de la radio ne comprennent pas les raisons qui ont poussé le gouvernement à ordonner cette suspension : "Nous sommes en règle vis-à-vis de l'Etat. Après une période d'essai depuis 2009, nous avons obtenu une licence en bonne et due forme en mai 2010", a déclaré le responsable de la radio, Mamy Andrianjafiso, à Reporters sans frontières, voyant plutôt dans cette suspension le fruit de manœuvres politiques. Cette radio appartient à la commune urbaine d'Antsirabé, dont la maire, Olga Ramalason, est proche de l'ancien président Marc Ravalomanana. Enfin, le 27 août dernier, la radio Soatalily émettant à Tuléar (sud-ouest du pays), antenne locale de la Radio nationale malgache (RNM), a été saccagée par des militants anti-transition contestant l'absence de représentation des leaders de l'opposition dans les médias publics. Certains bureaux ont été dévalisés et du matériel d'enregistrement a été détruit. Le 7 septembre, la radio Varatraza, antenne de la RNM à Antsiranana (nord de Madagascar) a failli connaître le même sort. Des inconnus ont tenté sans succès d'incendier l'émetteur de la station. Seule la tête de l'émetteur a été brûlée. [...]

Texte complet et source: Reporters sans frontières, Site, 10 sept. 2010

NEWS

FROM : 2010-09-18 [FR]

Centrafrique: Radio Centrafrique, reine de la débrouille<http://atelier.rfi.fr/profiles/blogs/radio-centrafrique-reine-de-la>

Médias du monde nous plonge aujourd'hui au cœur de Radio Centrafrique, la radio nationale d'un des pays les plus pauvres du continent. Guillaume Thibault est passé à Bangui il y a peu de temps pour accompagner un vieil orchestre du Bénin, le Poly Rythmo. Pendant son séjour, il a eu la curiosité d'aller rendre visite à nos confrères de la radio nationale. Il a été extrêmement bien accueilli et a voulu partager sa découverte. La "radio mère", comme l'appellent les centrafricains, a été marquée par les nombreux soubresauts qui ont rythmé l'histoire de la République Centrafricaine depuis 50 ans. Coups d'états à répétition, longue épopée de Bokassa à la tête du pays, mutineries comme celle de mars 2003 qui a mené le Général Bozizé à la tête du pays. Dès qu'un événement frappe Bangui, le premier endroit où viennent les putschistes, c'est à la radio car il est impératif de tenir ce média pour faire passer les messages. Et Radio Centrafrique évolue au même rythme que le pays...tout doucement. C'est un lieu où la débrouille est reine : journalistes, techniciens, animateurs se battent chaque jour pour diffuser leurs programmes.

Visite guidée de Radio Centrafrique en compagnie notamment de Paul Marin Ngoupama, ancien directeur de la presse présidentielle et actuel rédacteur en chef de la Radio. Un média du Monde réalisé par François Porcheron.

Source: Atelier des médias (RFI, Paris), 10 Sept. 2010 - 26 minutes à écouter

ALERT

FROM : 2010-09-18 [FR]

Ghana: 1 journaliste radio hospitalisé après avoir été agressé par des partisans du parti au pouvoirhttp://www.ifex.org/ghana/2010/09/10/afriyea_attacked/fr/

Le 8 septembre 2010, dans la matinée, Alexander Afriyea, correspondant de Nhyira FM, une station de radio basée à Kumasi, a été hospitalisé après avoir été violemment agressé à Effiduase, la capitale du district East Sekyere de la région Ashanti, par des personnes qui seraient des partisans du parti au pouvoir, le Congrès National Démocratique (NDC).

Un collègue du journaliste, Kwabena Ampratwum, a confié à la Fondation pour les Médias en Afrique de l'Ouest (MFWA) que : "Afriyea haletait, il était allongé sur un côté et pouvait seulement bouger la tête au moment où je lui ai rendu visite à l'hôpital".

Le correspondant était allé assurer la couverture des partisans déchaînés du NDC qui réclamaient le licenciement du premier magistrat du district.

Ampratwum a affirmé qu'afriyea, qui est un candidat à la prochaine élection de l'assemblée de district, a été accusé par les partisans courroucés du NDC d'être un membre du parti d'Opposition, le Nouveau Parti Patriotique.

Source: Fondation pour les Médias en Afrique de l'Ouest, cité par IFEX, 10 sept. 2010

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